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**BEFORE THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD**

In the Matter of

**FRANK HOUSTON SNIPES, M.D.**

Holder of License No. **20832**  
For the Practice of Allopathic Medicine  
In the State of Arizona.

**Case No. MD-10-0706A**

**INTERIM ORDER FOR PRACTICE  
RESTRICTION AND CONSENT TO THE  
SAME**

**INTERIM CONSENT AGREEMENT**

Frank Houston Snipes, M.D. ("Respondent") elects to permanently waive any right to a hearing and appeal with respect to this Interim Order for Practice Restriction; admits the jurisdiction of the Arizona Medical Board ("Board"); and consents to the entry of this Order by the Board.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.

2. Respondent is the holder of License No. 20832 for the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.

3. On October 19, 1996, Respondent entered into a Stipulated Rehabilitation Agreement with the Arizona Medical Board ("Board") that required he participate in the Board's Monitored Aftercare Program. The Stipulated Rehabilitation Agreement was successfully completed and terminated in April 2001.

4. On January 12, 2003, Respondent admitted that he prescribed a controlled substance to a member of his staff and that the staff person filled the prescription and returned the controlled substance to Respondent. Respondent was subsequently ordered by the Board to undergo inpatient chemical dependency evaluation. At that evaluation, Respondent admitted to Hazelden Springbrook staff that he had a relapse of

1 chemical dependency. On February 20, 2003, Respondent signed an Inactive with Cause  
2 Order. On or around April 2003, Dr. Snipes completed long-term residential treatment.

3 5. On September 11, 2003, Respondent entered into a Consent Agreement for  
4 License Reactivation and Probation. Respondent successfully completed the terms of the  
5 MAP Probation, and the Consent Agreement was terminated on September 17, 2008.

6 6. On May 21, 2010, the Board received information from Respondent's  
7 employer regarding possible impairment while performing his duties. Respondent was  
8 referred to the Addiction Medicine Contractor (AMC), who recommended inpatient  
9 evaluation. Respondent completed the assessment on July 8, 2010. On July 29, 2010,  
10 the Board's AMC notified Board Staff that results of the evaluation determined that  
11 Respondent had relapsed and recommended that Respondent complete long term  
12 residential treatment. The evaluators concluded that Respondent is not safe to practice  
13 medicine.

14 7. The Executive Director has consulted with investigative staff and the  
15 Board's medical consultant, who has reviewed the case and agrees that a consent  
16 agreement is appropriate.

#### 17 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

18 1. The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and over  
19 Respondent.

20 2. The Executive Director may enter into a consent agreement with a physician  
21 if there is evidence of danger to the public health and safety pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-  
22 1405(C)(25) and § 32-1451(F); A.A.C. R4-16-504.  
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3. Based on the information in the Board's possession there is evidence that if Respondent were to practice medicine in Arizona there would be a danger to the public health and safety.

**ORDER**

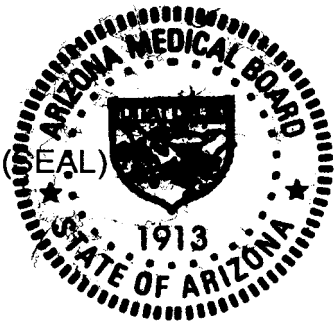
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Respondent shall not practice clinical medicine or any medicine involving direct patient care, and is prohibited from prescribing any form of treatment including prescription medications, until Respondent applies to the Board and receives permission to do so.

2. This is an interim order and not a final decision by the Board regarding the pending investigative file and as such is subject to further consideration by the Board.

DATED AND EFFECTIVE this 30<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2010.

ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD



By Lisa S. Wynn  
Lisa S. Wynn  
Executive Director

**CONSENT TO ENTRY OF INTERIM ORDER**

1. Respondent has read and understands this Interim Order for Practice Restriction and Consent to the Same and the stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order ("Interim Order"). Respondent acknowledges he has the right to consult with legal counsel regarding this matter.

1           2.     Respondent acknowledges and agrees that this Interim Order is entered  
2 into freely and voluntarily and that no promise was made or coercion used to induce such  
3 entry.

4           3.     By consenting to this Interim Order, Respondent voluntarily relinquishes any  
5 rights to a hearing or judicial review in state or federal court on the matters alleged, or to  
6 challenge this Interim Order in its entirety as issued, and waives any other cause of action  
7 related thereto or arising from said Interim Order.

8           4.     The Interim Order is not effective until approved and signed by the  
9 Executive Director.

10          5.     All admissions made by Respondent are solely for final disposition of this  
11 matter and any subsequent related administrative proceedings or civil litigation involving  
12 the Board and Respondent. Therefore, said admissions by Respondent are not intended  
13 or made for any other use, such as in the context of another state or federal government  
14 regulatory agency proceeding, civil or criminal court proceeding, in the State of Arizona or  
15 any other state or federal court.

16          6.     Upon signing this Interim Order, and returning this document (or a copy  
17 thereof) to the Board's Executive Director, Respondent may not revoke the consent to the  
18 entry of the Interim Order. Respondent may not make any modifications to the document.  
19 Any modifications to this original document are ineffective and void unless mutually  
20 approved by the parties.

21          7.     This Interim Order is a public record that will be publicly disseminated as a  
22 formal action of the Board and will be reported to the National Practitioner's Data Bank  
23 and on the Board's web site.

9. Any violation of this Interim Order constitutes unprofessional conduct and may result in disciplinary action. A.R.S. § § 32-1401(27)(r) ("[v]iolating a formal order, probation, consent agreement or stipulation issued or entered into by the board or its executive director under this chapter") and 32-1451.

Frank H. Snipes  
FRANK H. SNIPES, M.D.

DATED: 7/30/2010

EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing mailed  
this 30<sup>th</sup> day of JULY, 2010 to:

Frank H. Snipes, MD  
ADDRESS OF RECORD

ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed  
this 30<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2010 with:

**Arizona Medical Board  
9545 E. Doubletree Ranch Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258**

Kathleen Miller  
Arizona Medical Board Staff